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Wild Elephants.

A person who has never seen a wild elephant, can form no idea of his real character, either mentally or physically. The unwieldy and sleepy-looking beast, who, penned up in his cage at a menagerie, receives a sixpence in his trunk, and turns around with difficulty to deposit it in a box; whose mental powers seem to be concentrated in the idea of receiving buns tossed into a gaping mouth by children's hands; this very beast may have come from a warlike stock. His sire may have been the terror of a district, a pitiless highwayman, whose soul thirsted for blood; who, lying in wait in some thick bush, would rush upon the unwary passer-by, and know no pleasure greater than the act of crushing his victim to a shapeless mass beneath his feet. * * I have even heard people exclaim, upon hearing anecdotes of elephant hunting, "Poor things!" Poor things, indeed! I should like to see the very person who thus expresses his pity going with his best pace with a savage elephant after him; give him a lawn to run upon if he likes, and see the elephant gaining a foot in every yard of the chase, fire in his eyes, fury in his headlong charge; and would not the flying gentleman who lately exclaimed, "Poor thing!" be thankful to the lucky bullet that would save him from destruction? There are no animals more misunderstood than elephants; they are naturally savage, wary, and revengeful, displaying as great courage when in their wild state as any animal known. The fact of their great natural sagacity renders them more dangerous as foes. Even when tamed there are many that are not safe for a stranger to approach, and they are then only kept in awe by the sharp driving hook of the snout.

Elephants are gregarious, and the average number in a herd is about eight, although they frequently form bodies of fifty and even eighty in one troop. Each herd consists of a very large proportion of females, and they are constantly met without a single bull in their number. I have seen some small herds formed exclusively of bulls, but this is very rare. The bull is much larger than the female, and is generally more savage. His habits frequently induce him to prefer solitude to a gregarious life. He seldom strays many miles from one locality, which he haunts for many years. He becomes what is termed a "rogue." He then waylays the natives, and, in fact, becomes a scourge to the neighborhood, attacking the inoffensive without the slightest provocation, carrying destruction into the natives' paddy-fields, and perfectly regardless of night fires or the usual precautions for scaring wild beasts. The daring pluck of these "rogues" is only equalled by their extreme cunning. Endowed with that wonderful power of scent peculiar to elephants, he travels in the day-time down the wind; thus nothing can follow upon his track without his knowledge. He winds his enemy, as the cautious hunter advances noiselessly upon his track, and he stands with ears thrown forward, tail erect, trunk thrown high in the air, with its distended tip pointed to the spot from which he winds the silent but approaching danger. Perfectly motionless does he stand, like a statue in ebony, the very essence of attention, every nerve of scent and hearing stretched to its cracking point; not a muscle moves, not a sound of a rustling branch against his rough sides; he is a mute figure of wild and fierce eagerness. Meanwhile, the wary tracker stoops to the ground, and with a practised eye pierces the tangled brushwood in search of his colossal feet. Still farther and farther he silently creeps forward, when suddenly a crash bursts through the jungle; the moment has arrived for the ambushed charge, and the elephant is upon him.—[Baker's Rifle and Hound in Ceylon.

Thermometer above 90 deg. daily.

Japan.

The following is extracted from a letter, published in the O. S. Journal, from Mr. Walcutt, who was attached to Com. Perry's expedition to Japan:

The day after I wrote my last letter, I visited the shore as part of the escort of Commodore Perry. The object of the Commodore's visit was to receive the complimentary presents of the Emperor of Japan to the President of the United States, himself and some other officers—I suppose a return for those he had accepted from our country.—They consisted of beautiful and richly ornamented articles in the shape of dressing cases, stands, tables, &c., all made of wood, but highly finished with their peculiar varnish, and inlaid with mother of pearl, gold, and other valuables. Besides, they had a great variety of silks of different patterns, and of tolerably good quality, but I think not equal to the Chinese. They also had fine crapes of different patterns, specimens of their paper, which was beautiful, toys for children, umbrellas, and some other trifling fancy articles—all of which our country would be better without. At the same time, they presented to the Commodore, for the use of the squadron, a quantity of rice, which appears to be the principal article of food in this country. I should think they were all vegetizers, as they have but few animals. We succeed in getting a few ducks and chickens, but they are few indeed. Since I have mentioned the ducks, I will relate a singular discovery made in opening the gizzards of nearly all that had been killed in the squadron; that is, pieces of metal weighing about half as much as a three cent piece, which, from its color, was at first taken for gold, creating no little excitement among us. We decided at once that this was the El Dorado and no mistake, but on applying the tests, the gold was converted into copper.

The Japanese copper contains considerable gold, and for that reason the Dutch have attached considerable value to it.

I have seen two or three cattle, but they were saddled and bridled like horses, and so I suppose they perform the meaner duties of the horse; they have a few horses also, in the possession of the rich. In a country as densely populated as this, it is evidently impossible to feed but few animals that consume much. I have not as yet seen or heard of a pig, consequently I realize to the fullest extent being distant from Ohio; it would be delightful to hear a squeal or a grunt now. After the presents had been tendered and received, we were all invited outside, where seats were provided for us, ranged along in a line. At one end of the line, in a large pile, was the rice they had given us, in bags containing 160 pounds each. After we had got in position, much to our astonishment, as it was evidently intended, fifty naked men, weighing on an average from two to three hundred pounds, and some upwards of six and a half feet high, all muscularly developed, marched in single file by us, proceeded to the rice pile, when each of them took up two bags of rice, some holding one high above their heads with their two hands, while they carried the other with their teeth, passed along in front of us again, making another pile, some hundred yard distant from the first; they continued this until it was all removed, each having to make several trips to accomplish it. After this exhibition of strength, we adjourned to a back yard, where they had a ring about 12 feet in diameter. These same beastly looking men were here, and a new performance commenced, in which they were the actors. The whole amount of the game was this: two of them entered the ring, clinched, and then he would be the best fellow that could put the other outside of it. This was the whole entertainment in that way, unaccompanied with music, of which they appear to have no knowledge, although they take pleasure in listening to ours.

After we had seen all the Japan wonders, the Commodore invited the Commissioners to look at the productions of civilization. They were invited to get on the cars, as they could not get in them, which they did, the iron horse was then started, whistling as he went, and away flew the Japanese around the track, at a speed which certainly astonished these slow people. The telegraph and other things that I have already written you about were explained to them, the marines were exercised at musket and maneuvering, our several bands of music at the same time were making a delightful noise in their way. On the whole, I believe the Japanese concluded that the Americans "were some pumpkins."

We now repaired to the festive board, furnished by the Japanese, and I have no doubt with the best the market afforded; and as our appetites, by this time, had prepared our stomachs for the reception of any thing eatable, we fell to with hearty good will, and in an incredible short time considerable quantities of raw oysters, hard boiled eggs, sweet potatoes, shrimps, stewed fish, rice, boiled chestnuts, with the aid of chop-sticks (I prefer a knife and fork,) were concealed under our coats. By the way, so far, we had no bread; but I might as well mention that we were liberally supplied with Sakki, a sweet drink of theirs, distilled from rice. After we had satisfied ourselves with the substantial, they brought on the desert, consisting of a variety of confectionaries, such as cakes and candies, and of a quality that would have pleased children very much, and was partaken of with much gusto by many of us big boys, washed down with weak tea. We then left for our ships, having passed a very pleasant day, and the Commodore was much pleased with his reception.

In a few days after the occurrences related above, the Commodore, in return for the civilities that had been extended to him by the Japanese, invited about sixty of the most distinguished to dine with him on board of his ship. The invitation was accepted.—The princes and other nobles came on board with their retinue, and were received with a salute of seventeen guns, music and all the honors due to their high position in the Empire; all of which was gratifying to them. An excellent dinner had been provided, the good things of which they partook of quite kindly, and evinced a decided partiality for champagne and other wines, and the stronger liquors were not unappreciated by them, as was soon evident by their companionable manner. They could not refrain from hugging their "dear brothers, the Americans." "Japan man and American man all the same as brothers." They actually made attempts to "trip the light fantastic toe," in imitation of some our officers, but their awkward dress, not to mention sundry drinks, converted their intended "ho downs" into fall downs, all of which much amused Young America. After filling their bellies, what was left was wrapped up in paper, provided for the purpose, and placed in their pockets, all "for the old folks at home." I suppose; this being an old custom of theirs, which I suppose will be much older before it is given up. The entertainment was concluded in the evening with a theatrical performance and the Virginia Minstrels—the latter performance took the Japanese right down; they knocked under and yelled! laughed! roared!—In fact, from their delighted manner, I argued that there must be some human nature even in Japanese, consequently some hopes of their entering the bonds of fellowship with the "rest of mankind."

THE APPLE TREE BORER.—This mischief doer may be expected to make his annual visits about these days. The fly deposits its eggs at the roots of the apple tree the 1st of July, which soon become worms, or borers. Examine your trees, and apply some strong liquid that will destroy the worms. Strong lye is the cheapest and most convenient remedy. If left alone until they have com-

menced their ravages, they may be killed by thrusting a wire into the holes which they have made. They attack besides the apple tree, the quince, mountain ash, hawthorn and other thorn bushes, locust, &c.

Berea Village.

We recently spent part of a day in the village of Berea, in this county. It is famous for grindstones, but it is becoming famous for something else. It is situated 14 miles from Cleveland, and within a mile of the Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati railroad, and contains about 1,200 inhabitants. Its location is pleasant and healthful, and many of its residences neat and even elegant. It contains a woolen factory, a scythe snath factory, four dry goods stores, and recently Miller & Crane have opened an excellent grocery, provision and hardware store. The people are upright and moral.—Profanity and drunkenness are nearly unknown among them. A "Carson League," to prohibit liquor drinking, has been organized on a subscription of over \$40,000.—Their schools are very superior.

Baldwin Manual Labor School, was endowed and organized, by John Baldwin, a wealthy and benevolent citizen of the town. The building in which the school is taught is 40x80 feet and four stories high—of stone—and another adjoining of the same size, in which are an engine and machinery where students labor, to earn their boarding and education. None but poor children are permitted to go to this school.

BALDWIN INSTITUTE.—This too owes its existence to the public spirit of the individual whose name it bears, and who also gave birth to the institution before named. Two large, fine, brick buildings in the centre of a square of five acres, filled with about 200 pupils under charge of a corps of competent teachers prove its success. Much of the expenses of this institution is met each year, from the sales of a stone quarry which was given to it by its founder.

Besides these two schools, they have an admirable Union school with two hundred scholars; and James Wallace, mayor of the town, is now erecting a large, brick building worth \$6,000, which, when completed, he will donate to the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be used as a College.

The grindstone business of Berea is fast growing into importance. There are three principal quarries which employ about one hundred and twenty-five hands; Wallace & Crane, John Baldwin's, and Baldwin Institute. These sold last year over two thousand tons of stone, at \$14 per ton, making an aggregate of \$28,000. This year the amount will be nearly doubled. These stones go to all parts of the Union, and the demand is beyond their ability to supply. The quarry however, is inexhaustible. There is a track of railroad running from the main branch to the village, where the cars are daily loaded with grindstone, building stone, &c. It is now in contemplation to have a passenger car run from Cleveland to Berea, every evening, and return every morning, exclusively to accommodate the business of that town. Where is there another town in the West of the size of Berea, that can boast of such an amount of business and such schools?—[Ohio Farmer.

GOLD FROM CALIFORNIA.—The San Francisco Commercial Advertiser gives the amounts of gold shipped from that port to the Atlantic States from the first of June, 1853, to the 16th of May, 1854. The sum total is as follows:

Via Panama	\$28,789,561
Via Nicaragua	24,601,303
Independent steamer Uncle Sam	310,000

Total - - - - - \$53,700,864

This does not include what has been sent by sailing vessels and what has been brought personally by the owners. These items would add largely to the list.